

GERMAN RETREAT WASN'T PLANNED

Von Boehm's Order Lamenting Lack of Discipline Proved This

IRON HAND MENACED

By the Associated Press With the British Army in France, July 25. The claim of the German higher command that the retreat on the Marne is part of a set program is given the lie by an order of General von Boehm, commander of the Seventh Army. The Seventh Army has borne the full weight of the Foch counter-offensive on the west, and its divisions around Soissons suffered heavily at the hands of the Americans, while those east of Chateau-Thierry were thrown back across the Marne by the pressure of the French.

For this reason the order of General von Boehm, written a month prior to the beginning of the battle, is of unusual significance. He deprecates the lack of discipline which resulted in the pillaging of stores in the back areas during the advance in May, when all edible booty found in the wake of the retreating French speedily vanished, instead of being distributed among the hungry troops in due proportion.

The order continues: "It is necessary to depart from the beaten track, which has been followed in the utilization of material and provisions and stores from the occupied territory. Hopes of the utilization of captured food as rations and of the distribution of a fixed portion of the provisions to the fighting troops have proved to be fallacious, owing to the fact that the troops have failed to take care of themselves and eaten them, without treating them as part of the authorized scale of rations."

Some Have Abundance "In this way some units, which have chanced to have the opportunity to capture booty of this description, have lived in abundance, while others are suffering privations. Further, it has not even been the troops in the front line to whom this more abundant supply of food has fallen, but second-line troops, train echelons and especially stragglers, who are roaming about behind the army. It has even happened that men have taken food without authority, and by force from the stores in the military occupation and administration, and I regret to say, some officers have not been ashamed to interfere with the guard in the execution of their duty and to insult the officials to whose charge the provisions were entrusted. It appears to be necessary for the supply officials to follow the front-line troops as closely as possible, and to be accompanied by sections of cavalry or police, so that important stores and depots may at least be administered by them with as little delay as possible."

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Fear Report Duke of Urach Is to Be Independent King May Be True

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Comments on the matter are interesting as showing to what extent land-grabbing is linked up with that well-worn phrase, "frontier security." The Vossische Zeitung does not mince matters. "Germany," it declares, "did not occupy Lithuania and the frontier provinces in order to free the people living there, but to create a zone of protection against the fatherland's enemies. The fate of the frontier nationalities must be wholly one with the future interests of Germany."

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His reported choice of a name, should he become king of Lithuania—Mindove II—is a fine but unconscious piece of irony. Mindove I ruled Lithuania in the thirteenth century. He became a Christian in order to obtain the help of the German nobles in connection with his designs on the throne. When his ambition had been realized he lapsed again into heathenism, turned on the town of Peregau and burned it, and slew many Germans. The Prussians naturally would hardly appreciate the choice of a name which would link Lithuania's rule with such a tradition.

Russia Calls Murman Force

Continued from Page One ticular Government, but will work through the people as a whole. Wilson to the State Department, plus unusual reserves within the department on the subject of the Siberian project, led to the belief that Japan has officially reported on her attitude toward the plan. The President was still closeted with acting Secretary of State Polk they were joined by Secretary Baker. The British Ambassador, Lord Reading, arrived later. It was believed he desired to see the President. The President was closeted with Polk and Baker an hour. He left the building without comment as to the purpose of his visit. That the Allies have already extended aid to the Czechs-Slovaks was learned from the Czech-Slovak press. Large numbers of French officers have arrived in Vladivostok, and some have taken command of Czech bridges. French aid has been extended through these officers by the French Government, and it is believed that the Czechs also have been armed and supplied with guns and munitions taken from the high stores at Vladivostok. Continued from Page One. The matter, having studied it in Japan, and a socialist government at Harbin, Vladivostok have asked France, England and the United States for recognition, it was authoritatively learned today. France immediately refused to deal with the governments.

DANGER IN "BERLIN TO VLADIVOSTOK"

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co. Paris, July 25. There is as much danger to the future peace of the world after the war, implied by words "from Berlin to Vladivostok," as by the words, "Hamburg to Brest."

That the way Dr. Norton Prince, of America, sums up the reason why the Allies should now help Russia. He is an expert on all phases of the matter, having studied it in Japan, and now is in France in touch with the best opinion of the Russians themselves. Being a psychologist, he attacks such matters in a deep and conveyed by words. For that reason he objects to the word intervention. If the Allies don't soon come to the rescue Germany will penetrate deeper and deeper into Russia, will extend her domination eastward and acquire industrial and commercial and political hegemony which will make it impossible for what she will lose by eventual defeat in the west. Whatever the outcome on the western frontier, the war will end with victory for Germany if she holds Russia. "A military commercial empire—Berlin to Vladivostok. That is the potentiality of the present situation and the prospect which Russia, helpless in anarchy, holds out to Germany. Potentialities are what give a nation the stubbornness, the will to endurance, and therefore the resisting power to hold out in war when otherwise beaten. Take away potentialities from Germany in Russia and soon there would be a crumbling away of the will to continue the struggle in the west. But so long as Germany can hope for compensation in the east—an eastern empire—she will have the will to fight on the defensive indefinitely on the western front. "The Russian people must be helped as a military measure to shorten this period, and there must be a blockade of Germany from the east. It should be done now. "All are agreed that if a force of Allied troops sent into Siberia it would provide a supporting nucleus around which could rally the people of Russia. This assured of support which would guarantee them in action, their courage would be revived, and soon the moral and material resources of the country would become mobilized against German invasion and penetration."

FOCH AS STRATEGIST RANKS WITH JOFFRE

Great French Leader Bides His Time for Delivery of Crushing Blow

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co. Paris, July 25. "Since yesterday," writes Gustave Herve, "the name of Foch has suddenly, throughout the entire world, become as great as that of Joffre." And the entire world, including all of Germany that really knows the facts, undoubtedly agrees with Herve. Four by four as the great Allied victory between the Aisne and the Marne develops, France realizes more the genius of the man who has brought it about, and how sound was the action of the Allies in deciding, in spite of their long hesitation, to place the fate of the whole of their armies and their own priceless future in the hands of this one great soldier. For several dreary, heart-breaking months murmurs of "why doesn't Foch attack?" were repeated here. General Foch knew that in spite of all appearances the only possible policy was to wait. To every impatient minister, who, while abating none of his confidence in the generalissimo, yet failed to see the facts truly, as did the great soldier who was strong enough to refrain from all attempts at spectacular advertisement, Foch answered: "Attendez, attendez" (wait, wait). The Germans, with characteristic psychological blundering, mistook Foch's patient logic for inertness. France, their middle-headed and always overrated intelligence service told them, was down and out and had no longer men to fight for her new generals to lead them. German scorn of France, based on bought and poorly paid intelligence, was one of the great factors Foch relied on to bring them into the fatal blunder which, beginning last week, landed the flower of their armies into the desperately critical situation in which they now find themselves.

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LONDON PRAISES FOCH AS HEARTILY AS PARIS

Reappearance in Proper Role Has Put Allied Europe in Fine Spirits—Matching Brains With Ludendorff

By CHARLES H. GRASTY Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co. London, July 25. Nothing since the war has put allied Europe in such fine spirits as General Foch's reappearance in his own proper role. He has been "crying doggo" all these months, awaiting a good opening and the arrival of American reinforcements, but he has never drifted a moment away from his post. To Foch, the student, philosopher and master strategist, the Kaiser's battle has been a wonderful opportunity. In the darkest hours he has never been depressed. There is never the slightest bustle around his headquarters. One of our American generals called there the other day when the action was at a critical stage. After offering salutations, he was about to leave, but the generalissimo insisted on his staying the whole afternoon, during which they discussed general matters. On General Foch's table the whole battle is laid out, and while his generals are fighting one action he is preparing another. He can figure pretty closely what Ludendorff will do in given circumstances. The matching-up of brains between these two opposing leaders has become a feature of the war, now that the forces are about equal and the Germans have ceased to monopolize the offensive. Foch has one clear advantage over

ALLIES FORCE NEW GERMAN RETREAT NORTH OF MARNE

Continued from Page One however, were recaptured by the French soon afterward. Violent artillery actions are reported from the region of the Ourcq and to the west of Rheims. French troops last night carried out a surprise raid along the line south of Montdidier, in which prisoners were taken. The text of the War Office statement follows: South of Montdidier a surprise attack allowed the French to capture thirty prisoners. French Regain Positions On the north bank of the Marne in the region of Dormans the Germans during the night launched strong counter-attacks. The enemy succeeded in occupying momentarily the little wood 1500 meters north of Treloup and the village of Chas-sins, but returning to the aggressive, our troops recaptured these two points a short time later. In the region of the Ourcq and west of Rheims there were violent artillery actions. There is nothing further to report. More reserves are being thrown into the battle by the Germans, according to the latest advice reaching Paris, but these were unable to prevent the Allies from making appreciable gains Wednesday. The important point of Oulchy-le-Chateau slowly but surely is being surrounded. If the Germans lose it, they will be impossible for them to hang on to Feren-Tardenois.

HAIG ADVANCES LINE IN HEBUTERNE SECTOR

By the Associated Press London, July 25.—British troops last night pushed forward slightly south of Rosignol Wood in the Hebuterne sector, north of Albert. The official statement from Field Marshal Haig today adds that a few prisoners and six machine guns were captured. South of Villers-Bretonneux the Germans last night pushed into one of the British posts. They were driven out by a counter-attack. The enemy's tanks: Early last night the enemy attacked and entered one of our posts south of Villers-Bretonneux but was ejected by an immediate counter-attack. Later in the night a hostile raiding party attacked another of our posts north of the Somme and was repulsed. The enemy left prisoners in our hands as a result of these encounters. None of our men is missing. During the night we advanced our line slightly south of Rosignol Wood in the Hebuterne sector and captured a few prisoners and six machine guns. The hostile artillery was active last night south of the Somme and north of Lens and at a number of points in the northern portion of our front.

ALLIES GAIN IN RACE AGAINST GERMANS

By the Associated Press Washington, July 25.—Pushing steadily forward, American and French troops south of Soissons and French, British and Italian forces in the region of Rheims have gained in the race against the Germans in the great Allied counter-stroke. More and more the desperate battle being waged north of the Marne is assuming the aspect of a race, in the opinion of officials here. On the one side are the troops of the Allies, striking at both ends of the pocket-like salient between Soissons and Rheims in an attempt to close the jaws of the trap set by General Foch. On the other side are

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the German forces under General von Boehm, who by rear guard actions and counter-attacks are attempting to stay the progress of the Allied tank troops, guns and supplies can be removed from the salient. Time is a great factor in the situation. On the western side of the salient the Franco-American forces, according to unofficial advice, appear to be threatening one of the vital German centers—Feren-Tardenois, which is known to the German high command as the "key" to the forces in the south. Signs of a new move on the other side of the salient are seen in the gaining by the British of important ground in Vriky Wood, southwest of Rheims. Not only the position of the German forces being made more precarious by gains on the upper flanks of the salient, but officials believed that many German troops face the danger of capture through determined attacks by the Americans and French in the region north of Chateau-Thierry. The enemy is being harassed by long-range artillery fire which is destroying his carefully worked out transportation systems. The salient, with the railroad running from Chateau-Thierry to Soissons under Allied fire or Allied tanks, only a single road remains which can be used by the German command in getting out men and supplies. This is the railroad running from Nanteuil to the Ourcq to Bazoches on the River Vesle.

40 TEUTON DIVISIONS ON AISNE-MARNE LINE

By the Associated Press With the French Army in France, July 25.—Owing to the defection of the Russians from the Allies the Germans have been able to place 210 divisions on the western front since the beginning of the war. From January to July 24, a little more than six months, these divisions have been engaged about 430 times, so that each has been thrown into battle at least once during the half year. With operations becoming more frequent, this proportion is rapidly increasing. When the present battle began the Germans had twenty-eight divisions on that portion of the field westward from Chateau-Thierry. This number has since been increased by the Allied attack from the latter side by the Aisne and the Germans have placed a considerable strain upon the enemy's reserves. They still have reserve divisions concentrated at some places behind their lines, but many units comprised by these divisions have been severely tried already this year and it is questionable whether they are all sufficiently recuperated to take part in a new attack should the German staff decide to order one to relieve the defeat of the Crown Prince.

BERLIN REPORT SAYS ALLIES ARE REPULSED

Berlin, July 25.—German army headquarters yesterday issued the following: Between the Aisne and the Marne the enemy only yesterday morning, after bringing up fresh reserves, continued his mass attacks. General von Boehm's army completely defeated enemy thrusts. The French and Americans again suffered very heavy losses. Villers-Moutiers was recaptured from the enemy, who retreated in demoralized masses, which were fired at by our artillery. North of the Ourcq our annihilating fire smashed enemy attacks in preparation and during the first thrust between the Ourcq and the Marne we repulsed strong enemy attacks for the most part in front of our lines. Southwest of Rheims heavy engagements lasted throughout the day. Between the Marne and the Ardre the enemy in four violent partial attacks advanced repeatedly in vain. North of the Ardre the French, besides white and colored troops, also threw Italian and British into the fray. The attack of the Italians who were effectively caught in their preparation positions, was only feebly developed and was rapidly crushed. The French and British also were repulsed at many points after a desperate struggle and partly by our counter-thrusts. On the western bank of the Aisne the French temporarily advanced as far as the Aisne during a local attack near and south of Mally. Our counter-thrust re-established the situation. We repulsed in the evening enemy partial attacks launched from Mally and north of that place.

"TIME IN OUR FAVOR." Foe Writer Asserts

Amsterdam, July 25.—German war correspondents are still sending to their newspapers voluminous explanations as to why the southern bank of the Marne was evacuated. Hegeler, of the Tageblatt of Berlin, explains that the capture of the heights on the southern bank of the Marne was essential to provide for a flank protection for the troops advancing further eastward on the north bank of the river. When this task was accomplished and it became necessary to meet the enemy offensive, he says, there was no further object in holding the southern bank. Hegeler and Kayser, of the Zeitung and Mittag of Berlin, and also Horner, of the Lokal Anzeiger, each has his own version of how, undiscovered by the enemy, the Germans withdrew and blew up their pontoons and captured

French guns which it was impossible to take across the river. They say of how the French gassed and herded already evacuated positions in their subsequent progress. How the Marne the French were badly hit by fire from the northern bank and from battleplanes.

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Advertisement for U.S. MARINES, featuring an illustration of a soldier with a rifle and text about recruitment, including 'Somewhere out there the lurking "Untersee Boot," the one-eyed viper of the seas, lies waiting—for troop ship—Red Cross ship—any ship—alike.'

Advertisement for ATTERBURY TRUCKS, featuring an illustration of a truck and text: 'STABILITY' '2375 to 2575' '100 CUBIC FT. CARRYING CAPACITY'.